

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. Claims 17-34 are pending, Claims 17, 22, 23, 29, 30, 35, 40, and 47 having been amended by way of the present amendment. Support for the amendments is found at Figure 4 and the corresponding text at page 15 of the specification and therefore, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 17-34 were rejected as being unpatentable over Blake (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0031465) in view of Kang (U.S. Patent No. 5,543,933); and Claims 35-51 were rejected as being unpatentable over Blake in view of Kang and in further view of Lawler (U.S. Patent No. 5,585,838).

Applicant discussed Claim 17 in previous amendments, for example in the Amendment filed October 15, 2008 and therefore, the detailed provisions of Claim 17 that have already been discussed will not be reiterated herein. Claim 17 is presently amended to define the means for controlling as judging whether a character string in said formatted file is a control command, and when a control command is judged to exist, the means for controlling checks for at least one of a reservation command, a cancellation command and a confirmation command. Nonlimiting support is found at page 15 for example and steps S4-S10 in Figure 4. Therefore, no new matter is added.

One type of formatted file, as claimed, is an electronic mail having a structure like that shown in the nonlimiting embodiment of Figure 4. A reception device reads the electronic mail and checks whether a character string is contained therein that includes a particular command. When it is judged that the particular command is present, a character string is evaluated for determining whether the command is one of a reservation, a cancellation or a confirmation process. Exemplary strings are found in Figures 6, 7 and 10, for example.

The Office Action relies on Blake's disclosure in paragraphs [0089] to [0093] of a television schedule guide that has enhanced recording capability. While Blake includes one statement that "the user may also send recording requests via e-mail to an account connected to the processing system 334" [0093], this description in Blake does not correspond with the claimed means for controlling that judges whether a character string is in a formatted file and when the control command is judged to exist, checks for at least one of a reservation, a confirmation and a cancellation command. Blake provides only a brief mention of e-mail without any description of how the e-mail would be used. Moreover, Blake relies on the use of a central processing system 334 for processing requests and sending program codes to the recording device. Presumably the program codes are sent as an e-mail attachment and not in the e-mail text. Also, a user may access a web site to enter the user's selection [0093]. However, this does not correspond with the claimed means for controlling according to Claim 17. As such, it is respectfully submitted that Blake does not disclose the claimed means for controlling. Even if Kang does disclose what it is asserted for (namely, a reserve-record system that takes in start and ending time as well as tape speed and operation mode) even this disclosure in Kang would not cure the deficiency discussed above with regard to Blake. Therefore, no matter how Blake and Kang are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest all the elements of Claim 17. Although of differing statutory class and/or scope, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 18-34 also patentably define over Blake in view of Kang for the reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 17.

Likewise, Lawler does not cure the deficiency discussed above with regard to Blake and Kang and therefore no matter how Blake, Kang and Lawler are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest all the elements of amended Claims 35-51.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 17-51, as amended, patentably

defines over the asserted prior art. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

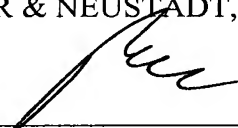
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